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CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1.   A method in a logically partitioned computer system
5   including a plurality of different partitions, said
method comprising the steps of:
        storing a plurality of different firmware images in
said computer system; and
        rebooting one of said plurality of partitions
10   utilizing one of said plurality of firmware images
without rebooting other ones of said plurality of
partitions.

2.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising
15   the step of selecting said one of said plurality of
firmware images to use to reboot said one of said
plurality of partitions.

3.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising
20   the step of associating a different, unique firmware
image identifier with each of said plurality of firmware
images.

4.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising
25   the steps of:
        associating a different, unique firmware image
identifier with each of said plurality of firmware
images;
        associating a different partition table with each
30   one of said plurality of partitions;
        providing an indicator within each said different
partition table, said indicator indicating whether one of

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said plurality of partitions that is associated with said partition table needs to be rebooted; and

    providing an identifier within each said different partition table, said identifier identifying one of said

5 plurality of firmware images.

5.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

    routinely checking each said partition table to

10 determine whether said indicator included within each said partition table indicates that one of said plurality of partitions associated with each said partition table is to be rebooted;

    in response to a determination that an indicator

15 indicates that one of said plurality of partitions needs to be rebooted, rebooting said one of said plurality of partitions having said indicator that indicates said need to be rebooted.

20 6.   The method according to claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

    retrieving an identifier from said partition table that includes said indicator that indicates said need to be rebooted, said identifier one of said plurality of

25 firmware images; and

    rebooting only said one of said plurality of partitions that includes said indicator that indicates said need to be rebooted utilizing said identifier retrieved from said partition table associated with said

30 one of said plurality of partitions.

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7.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising
the steps of:
       providing a listing of said plurality of partitions;
       providing a listing of said plurality of different
5   firmware images;
       receiving a selection of one of said plurality of
partitions that is to be rebooted; and
       receiving a selection of one of said plurality of
firmware images to use to reboot said selected one of
10   said plurality of partitions.

8.   The method according to claim 7, further comprising
the steps of:
       setting an indicator in a partition table associated
15   with said selected one of said plurality of partitions,
said indicator indicating that said one of said plurality
of partitions has been selected to be rebooted; and
       storing an identification of said selected one of
said plurality of firmware images in said partition table
20   associated with said selected one of said plurality of
partitions.

9.   A computer program product in a logically
partitioned computer system including a plurality of
25   different partitions, comprising:
       instruction means for storing a plurality of
different firmware images in said computer system; and
       instruction means for rebooting one of said
plurality of partitions utilizing one of said plurality
30   of firmware images without rebooting other ones of said
plurality of partitions.

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10. The product according to claim 9, further comprising
instruction means for selecting said one of said
plurality of firmware images to use to reboot said one of
said plurality of partitions.

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11. The product according to claim 9, further comprising
instruction means for associating a different, unique
firmware image identifier with each of said plurality of
firmware images.

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12. The product according to claim 9, further
comprising:

    instruction means for associating a different,
unique firmware image identifier with each of said

15 plurality of firmware images;

    instruction means for associating a different
partition table with each one of said plurality of
partitions;

    instruction means for providing an indicator within

20 each said different partition table, said indicator
indicating whether one of said plurality of partitions
that is associated with said partition table needs to be
rebooted; and

    instruction means for providing an identifier within

25 each said different partition table, said identifier
identifying one of said plurality of firmware images.

13. The product according to claim 9, further
comprising:

30   instruction means for routinely checking each said
partition table to determine whether said indicator
included within each said partition table indicates that

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one of said plurality of partitions associated with each
said partition table is to be rebooted;

    in response to a determination that an indicator
indicates that one of said plurality of partitions needs
5   to be rebooted, instruction means for rebooting said one
of said plurality of partitions having said indicator
that indicates said need to be rebooted.

14. The product according to claim 13, further
10   comprising:

    instruction means for retrieving an identifier from
said partition table that includes said indicator that
indicates said need to be rebooted, said identifier one
of said plurality of firmware images; and

15   instruction means for rebooting only said one of
said plurality of partitions that includes said indicator
that indicates said need to be rebooted utilizing said
identifier retrieved from said partition table associated
with said one of said plurality of partitions.

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15. The product according to claim 9, further
comprising:

    instruction means for providing a listing of said
plurality of partitions;

25   instruction means for providing a listing of said
plurality of different firmware images;

    instruction means for receiving a selection of one
of said plurality of partitions that is to be rebooted;
and

30   instruction means for receiving a selection of one
of said plurality of firmware images to use to reboot
said selected one of said plurality of partitions.

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16.   The product according to claim 15, further
comprising:
        instruction means for setting an indicator in a
partition table associated with said selected one of said
5   plurality of partitions, said indicator indicating that
said one of said plurality of partitions has been
selected to be rebooted; and
        instruction means for storing an identification of
said selected one of said plurality of firmware images in
10   said partition table associated with said selected one of
said plurality of partitions.

17.   A logically partitioned computer system including a
plurality of different partitions, comprising:
15   a plurality of different firmware images being
stored in said computer system; and
        said computer system for rebooting one of said
plurality of partitions utilizing one of said plurality
of firmware images without rebooting other ones of said
20   plurality of partitions.

18.   The system according to claim 17, further comprising
said one of said plurality of firmware images being
selected to use to reboot said one of said plurality of
25   partitions.

19.   The system according to claim 17, further comprising
a different, unique firmware image identifier being
associated with each of said plurality of firmware
30   images.

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20. The system according to claim 17, further
comprising:
    a different, unique firmware image identifier being
associated with each of said plurality of firmware
5 images;
    a different partition table being associated with
each one of said plurality of partitions;
    an indicator being provided within each said
different partition table, said indicator indicating
10 whether one of said plurality of partitions that is
associated with said partition table needs to be
rebooted; and
    an identifier being provided within each said
different partition table, said identifier identifying
15 one of said plurality of firmware images.

21. The system according to claim 17, further
comprising:
    said computer system for routinely checking each
20 said partition table to determine whether said indicator
included within each said partition table indicates that
one of said plurality of partitions associated with each
said partition table is to be rebooted;
    in response to a determination that an indicator
25 indicates that one of said plurality of partitions needs
to be rebooted, said computer system for rebooting said
one of said plurality of partitions having said indicator
that indicates said need to be rebooted.

30 22. The system according to claim 21, further
comprising:

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an identifier being retrieved from said partition table that includes said indicator that indicates said need to be rebooted, said identifier one of said plurality of firmware images; and

5   said computer system for rebooting only said one of said plurality of partitions that includes said indicator that indicates said need to be rebooted utilizing said identifier retrieved from said partition table associated with said one of said plurality of partitions.

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23. The system according to claim 17, further comprising:

a listing of said plurality of partitions;

a listing of said plurality of different firmware

15 images;

means for receiving a selection of one of said plurality of partitions that is to be rebooted; and

means for receiving a selection of one of said plurality of firmware images to use to reboot said

20 selected one of said plurality of partitions.

24. The system according to claim 23, further comprising:

an indicator in a partition table associated with

25 said selected one of said plurality of partitions being set, said indicator indicating that said one of said plurality of partitions has been selected to be rebooted; and

an identification of said selected one of said

30 plurality of firmware images being stored in said partition table associated with said selected one of said plurality of partitions.